

Message Text

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PAGE 01 ROME 03840 011758Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-01 HA-05
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R 011718Z MAR 78
FM AMEMBASSY ROME
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 943
INFO AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST
AMEMBASSY WARSAW

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FROM VATICAN OFFICE

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PGOV, VT, RO
SUBJECT: VATICAN OFFICIALS' VISIT TO ROMANIA

1. THE VATICAN NUNCIO-AT-LARGE, LUIGI, POGGI, WHO IS IN CHARGE OF CONTACTS WITH EAST EUROPEAN REGIMES, ACCOMPANIED BY VATICAN EASTERN EUROPEAN EXPERT, FATHER JOHN BUKOVSKY, DEPARTED FEBRUARY 28 FOR ROMANIA. OBJECTIVE OF 8-DAY TRIP IS TO APPOINT ROMAN CATHOLIC ORDINARY FOR JASI AND TO HOLD PRELIMINARY TALKS WITH GOR OFFICIALS ON THE DRAFT "STATUTE" FOR LEGALIZING ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH'S STATUS IN ROMANIA.

2. THE NEW ORDINARY FOR JASI WILL HAVE EQUIVALENT POWERS OF A BISHOP AND, ACCORDINGLY, WILL HAVE JURISDICTION OVER SOME 120 PRIESTS IN A TERRITORIAL PROVINCE CONTAINING 250,000 CATHOLICS. VATICAN CONSIDERS IT A GOOD SIGN FOR FUTURE TALKS THAT THE GOR APPROVED THE APPOINTMENT OF "ORDINARY."

3. VATICAN OFFICIALS WILL ALSO HOLD PRELIMINARY TALKS ON THE DRAFT "STATUTE" WHICH WAS SUBMITTED BY VATICAN TO GOR ON JANUARY 10 ON BEHALF OF THE ROMANIAN CATHOLIC
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CHURCH. FULL DISCUSSION OF THE "STATUTE" WILL TAKE PLACE LATER IN THE SPRING OF 1978, APPARENTLY BECAUSE DIRECTOR OF RELIGIOUS AFFAIRS OFFICE IS PARTICIPATING IN A CONFERENCE IN WARSAW ALONG WITH COUNTERPART OFFICIALS FROM OTHER EAST EUROPEAN COUNTRIES AND THE SOVIET UNION.

4. COMMENT: VATICAN BELIEVES THAT CURRENT CONFERENCE

IN WARSAW IS DESIGNED TO EXCHANGE INFORMATION ON
RELIGIOUS QUESTIONS AND ALSO TO MONITOR CONTACTS WITH THE
VATICAN AND GUIDE FUTURE DEVELOPMENTS. VATICAN DEDUCES THIS
FROM FACT THAT VATICAN WAS INFORMED THAT GOR OFFICIAL IN
CHARGE OF RELIGIOUS AFFAIRS WILL BE IN WARSAW IN LATE
FEBRUARY.HOLMES

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Channel Indicators: n/a
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Concepts: VISITS, RELIGIOUS LEADERS, MEETING REPORTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 01 mar 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t197803119/aaaadxew.tel
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Litigation Codes:
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Message ID: 7ab1d1ba-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
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